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(54) IMPROVEMENT OF PROPERTY OF P-VINYLPHENOLIC POLYMER

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To improve economically the properties of p-vinylphenolic polymer, such as permeability to light in the ultraviolet region, solubility, and thermal cracking resistance, by bringing a p-vinylphenolic polymer into contact with hydrogen in the presence of a catalyst of a Group VIII metal of the periodic table at a prescribed temperature.

CONSTITUTION: A p-vinylphenolic polymer is prepared which is, for example, a poly-p-vinylphenol obtained from crude p-vinylphenol as raw material or a copolymer obtained from p-vinylphenol and other comonomer. The p-vinylphenolic polymer is brought into contact with hydrogen in the presence of a catalyst of a Group VIII metal of the periodic table (e.g., a platinum catalyst or a nickel catalyst) and, preferably, in the presence of a solvent selected from the group consisting of lower alcohols, lower ketones, cyclic ethers and phenols (e.g., methanol) at 50W300°C. Thus the properties of the p-vinylphenolic polymer can be easily improved.